AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace Paragraph [0014] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0014] Referring now to the drawings in which like reference numerals designate like components throughout the several views, there is shown in FIG. 1 a shock absorber according to the teachings of the present invention which is designated generally by the reference numeral 8. The shock absorber 8 is shown in a mounted position in a vehicle 10. While shock absorber 8 is illustrated as being mounted to the rear suspension of vehicle 10, it is within the scope of the present invention to utilize the features of shock absorber 8 on the front suspension of vehicle 10 if desired. Referring to Figure 2, the shock absorber 8 is a triple tube shock absorber which comprises a piston 12, a piston rod 14, a pressure tube 16, a reserve tube or outer housing 18, a base valve assembly 20 and an externally mounted control valve 22. The externally mounted control valve 22 is mounted in a transverse relationship with the ~~outer housing~~ reserve tube 18.

Please replace Paragraph [0017] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0017] The piston rod 14 is attached to the piston 12 and extends out of the pressure tube 16 and reserve tube 18 through a rod guide 36. The outer end of the piston rod 14 is adapted to be attached to the sprung mass of the vehicle by means well known in the art. The reserve tube 18 surrounds the pressure [[tune]] tube 16 and with the pressure tube 16 defines a reserve chamber 38. The reserve tube 18 is adapted for

attachment to the unsprung mass of the vehicle by methods well known in the art. The base valve assembly 20 is disposed between the lower working chamber 26 and the reserve chamber 38 and it defines a plurality of passages 40 for permitting fluid flow between these chambers. A one-way check valve 42 allows fluid flow from the reserve chamber 38 to the lower working chamber 26 through the passages 40 but prohibits fluid flow from the lower working chamber 26 to the reserve chamber 38.

Please replace Paragraph [0019] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0019]With continued reference to FIG. 2 and further reference to FIG. 3, the control valve assembly 22 will be described in greater detail. The control valve assembly 22 includes a valve seat 70 having an inlet passage 72 aligned with a passage 74 on the ~~reserve tube 18~~ intermediate tube 44 for fluid communication with the intermediate chamber 52. Fluid is delivered to a control valve 80 from the valve seat 70. Fluid exits the control valve 80 at the control valve outlet 84 and is delivered to the reserve chamber 38 through a valve seat plate 86 and passage 88 in the ~~outer housing~~ reserve tube 18. As shown in FIG. 3, the valve seat 70 is axially received within a collar 90 mounted on the intermediate tube 44. The collar 90 generally includes a radial neck portion 92 transversely extending with respect to the intermediate tube 44 and a shoulder portion 94 extending laterally to the intermediate tube 44. The neck portion 92 of the collar 90 has an inner diameter sufficient to accept the outer diameter of the valve seat 70 in an installed position. An O-ring 96 is disposed around a radial

cavity on the valve seat 70 and contacts the collar 90 to form an interference fit between the valve seat 70 and collar 90 and a seat thereat.

Please replace Paragraph [0020] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0020]The collar 90 is preferably a distinct piece from the intermediate tube 44 and is mounted onto the intermediate tube 44 by suitable fastening techniques such as welding. As is presently preferred, the external control valve assembly 22 includes a housing 98 that is welded to the outer cylindrical surface of the ~~outer housing~~ reserve tube 18. It is appreciated however that other attachment techniques may similarly be employed for coupling the control valve assembly 22 to the ~~outer housing~~ reserve tube 18.

Please replace Paragraph [0024] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0024]A method for attaching the external control valve assembly 22 to the ~~housing~~ reserve tube 18 according to the present invention will be described in greater detail. A reserve tube 18 defining a reserve chamber 38 is provided. An intermediate tube 44 defining an intermediate chamber 52 and having a passage 74 incorporated on a cylindrical outer wall thereof is provided. The intermediate tube 44 is disposed within the reserve tube 18 and a pressure tube 16 is arranged within the intermediate tube 44 having a working chamber therein. The housing 98 of the external control valve 22 is placed flush onto the ~~housing~~ reserve tube 18. While placing the respective ~~housings~~

reserve tube 18 and housing 98 into a contacting relationship, the valve seat 70 of the control valve assembly 22 is located into the inner diameter of the shoulder 92 of the collar 90. The shoulders 92 of the collar 90 provide a guide for the valve seat 70 to be slidingly received.

Please replace Paragraph [0025] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0025] A fluid communication pathway is created at the inlet passage 72 of the external control valve 22 and the passage 74 of the ~~outer housing~~ reserve tube 18. In this way a fluid communication pathway is created from the intermediate chamber 52 to the control valve 80. Concurrently, the passage 88 incorporated in the ~~outer housing~~ reserve tube 18 is aligned with the valve seat plate 86 thereby providing a fluid communication pathway from the control valve 80 to the reserve chamber 38. The ~~respective housings~~ reserve tube 18 and housing 98 are coupled together by a weld joint or other suitable method.